ArtWorks

release notes issue 1.50

Features of this release:

1. 'Deep colour' (15bpp and 24 bpp) Sprite and TIFF handling
2. New preference options
3. Changes and additions to the Print dialogue box
4. New option when clicking on the Close icon
5. Improvements to changing the default tool

Installing ArtWorks 1.5

Run *!Installer* on disc 1 supplied with these notes. If you are installing to floppy discs, refer to the enclosed leaflet.

See below for more information on the TIFF loader.

'Deep colour' Sprites and TIFF graphics

Since the previous release of ArtWorks, Acorn have released a specification for 15bpp (bits-per-pixel) and 24bpp Sprites. These can show more colours – approximately 32,000 for 15bpp and 16.7million for 24bpp. Because of the number of colours, these are often called 'deep colour'.

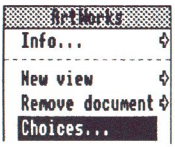
ArtWorks 1.5 can load and display these Sprites. The number of colours that can be displayed on-screen is limited by the number of colours in the screen colour palette. However, ArtWorks dithers the image to give the best possible representation and 256-colour screen modes give excellent results.

ArtWorks can also now load TIFF (Tagged Image File Format) graphics. These are 256 colour or 15 or 24bpp. Treat TIFF graphics in the same way as ordinary sprites. TIFF graphics are available from a wide variety of sources, including other types of computer. You can only load TIFF graphics if you have installed the TIFF loader onto your computer. If the TIFF loader is missing, rerun *!Installer* and install it.

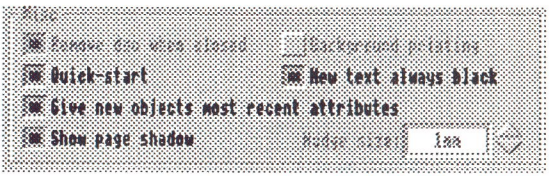
The Sprite info box has been expanded to provide the extra information associated with these formats.

You cannot load documents with 'deep colour' sprites or TIFF graphics into older versions of ArtWorks. Apart from this, ArtWorks 1.5 documents are backwards compatible.

New preference options



These are accessed from *Choices* in the Program Menu. (Refer to page 170-171 of the *User Manual*.)



Quick start

This was first implemented on the network version of ArtWorks 1.1. If you have this version of ArtWorks, please note that *Make quick start* has changed slightly.

With this option **off**, ArtWorks loads as a series of separate modules. This makes it easy to add, remove, or replace modules.

With this option **on**, ArtWorks loads as just two modules. This speeds up loading, especially from some networks such as Econet.

You can change between the two load options by toggling the switch, Click on **OK** or **Save** to implement the change.

New text always black

In previous versions of ArtWorks, new text appeared in the current fill colour. Many users found this inconvenient as, in most cases, black text is required.

With this option **on**, new text appears in black. Use the fill tools to change the colour if required. Note that black text overprints underlying colours. (See pages 12-13 of the *Commercial Printing Guide* for more information on overprinting.)

With this option **off**, new text appears in the current fill colour.

Give new objects most recent attributes

With this option **on**, new objects appear with the current attributes. These affect fill and line colour, line thickness, join style and so on. (For example, if you set the fill colour to red, new objects are created with a red fill.) This is how previous version of ArtWorks operated.

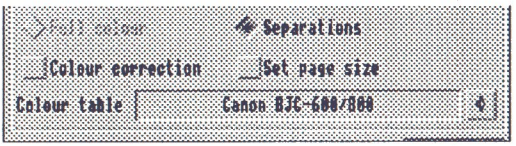
With this option **off**, new objects have the attributes that applied when you loaded ArtWorks or switched this option off. This provides greater flexibility in using ArtWorks.

Show page shadow

Normally the ArtWorks page on screen has a shadow to the left and below. (This is shown in the illustration on page 14 in the *User Manual*.)

Some users dislike this shadow and prefer a thin black edge. Set this option **off** to remove the shadow.

Print dialogue box changes



Colour tables

Factors such as ink colour and print density vary greatly between printers. As a result, the same document can look different when printed on different printers. Colour tables compensate for this variation. This compensation can only work with printers that use four-colour (CMYK) printing such as BJC-600/800 or when producing PostScript separations.

'Deep colour' sprites are always corrected by the colour tables. Other objects can be either:

- corrected in ArtWorks by setting the *Colour correction* button, or
- within the TurboDriver printer driver. (TurboDriver is a separate package available from Computer Concepts. It gives substantially faster processing of data for the printer. Contact Computer Concepts for more details.)

Colour table shows which is the current table. Click on the menu icon to the right for a menu of available tables.

One disadvantage of colour tables is that the colours in documents printed from ArtWorks 1.5 may differ from the same document printed by earlier versions. The advantage is that ArtWorks 1.5 shows the colours more accurately. Note that there will still be differences between the colours displayed on the screen and on a printer. Refer the page 114 in the *User Manual* for more information.

Set page size

This is only used when printing to PostScript devices.

With this option **on**, ArtWorks sends page size parameters to the PostScript device before printing. This is suitable for imagesetters.

With this option **off**, the default page size is used. This is suitable for laser printers.

If you produce output for imagesetting:
As a separate improvement, ArtWorks now never attempts to output a page larger than the imagesetter can handle. (For example, Linotronic imagesetters has a maximum image width of 304.4mm – this is insufficient for A3 width [297mm] plus crop marks.) Now ArtWorks crops the edge of the image to fit the imagesetter's page area.

Ink level overprint

This option, described on page 140 of the *User Manual* and page 12 of the *Commercial Printing Guide*, has been removed.

Note when printing blends

The end objects of blends should use the same colour model (RGB, CMYK, or HSV). If the objects use different models, the intermediate colours may show banding or appear muddy. This is inherent in blending between colour models and is not an ArtWorks problem.

Printing to PostScript colour printers

Current versions of the Acorn printer drivers print 24-bit colour sprites using only 256 colours. As a result, printed quality will be less than expected. This only applies to PostScript colour printers; it does not apply to separated output to monochrome PostScript devices (such as imagesetters).

Reading EPS files

(The User Manual page 145 has more information on EPS files.)

ArtWorks can read and translate EPS files if they are:

- PoScript file type,
- MSDOS file type with an /EPS or /EP suffix,
- Data file type with an /EPS or /EP suffix.

If you have difficulties reading EPS files, use Set type on the filer menu to change the file type to PoScript. (This menu option is available on RISC OS 3 only.)

New option when clicking on the Close icon

This applies if the *Remove doc when closed* option is set – see page 172 of the User Manual.

If you click on the Close icon and your document contains unsaved changes, you now have four possible options:

Save Save the document and then remove it from memory.
Hide Close the window but retain the document in memory. Use *New view* to reopen a window onto the document.
Cancel Cancel the requested close operation.
Discard Remove the document from memory and discard any unsaved changes.

The default tool

Normally ArtWorks starts up with the Select tool as the default selected tool. You can change the default tool (for example to the Curve tool) by:

1 selecting the Curve tool and then
2 choosing *Save choices* from the Icon Bar Menu.

In the future ArtWorks then starts up with the Curve tool selected.

In previous versions of ArtWorks, you could not make certain tools the default. This has been corrected and now you can make any tool the default.